



# Superior Court of California County of Sonoma

Shelly J. Averill  
Presiding Judge

ACCESS, SERVICE, JUSTICE

Arlene D. Junior  
Court Executive Officer

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## NOTICE OF NON-AVAILABILITY OF COURT REPORTERS

Monday, March 7, 2022

**Policy Regarding Non-Availability of Official Court Reporting Services in Civil Departments of the Sonoma Superior Court.** Pursuant to California Rule of Court 2.956 (b)(1), and effective immediately, the Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma, will post the Departments in which the services of Official Court Reporters will not normally be available during regular Court hours. A notice shall be posted on the outside of each affected Department and in the Clerk's Office, Room 107, Empire Annex, and Civil and Family Courthouse. The Court's Official Court Reporters are "not available" within the meaning of California Rules of Court, Rule 2.956, for court reporting of civil cases. As provided in Rule 2.956(e)(1), the term "civil cases" includes all matters other than criminal and juvenile matters. This order is not currently being applied to the Family Law Division. This non-availability extends to all other civil cases hearings or proceedings of any kind or nature, including but not limited to law and motion hearings, ex parte applications, long-cause hearings and trials as specifically set forth herein. Effective March 7, 2022, the departments which normally hear civil and probate cases are Departments 16, 17, 18, 19, 23 and 5 for Guardianships. As provided in Rule 2.956(c), parties may arrange for the presence of a certified shorthand reporter to serve as an official pro tempore reporter. It is the party's responsibility to pay the reporter's fee for attendance at the proceedings, but the expense may be recoverable as part of the costs, as provided by law. If a party arranges and pays for the attendance of the certified shorthand reporter, none of the parties will be charged the reporter's attendance fee provided for in Government Code section 68086, subdivisions (a)(1) or (b)(1). The stenographic notes of the certified shorthand reporter are the official records of the court and shall be secured by the court in either paper and/or electronic format in accordance with Government Code section 69955(a), (b), (c) and (d). In all cases, the plaintiff shall serve "Notice of Non-Availability of Official Court Reporting Services in Civil Departments" ("Notice") with the complaint. Likewise, the cross-complainant must serve the Notice on any new parties to the action. The service information must be included on the Proof of Service of Summons. In addition, parties that file motions must serve the Notice on all parties in the case. The service information must be included on the Proof of Services by Mail. (Eff. 3/7/2022)